New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001

Henry G. Williams
Commissioner

November 21, 1984

Mr. Melvin Weiss
USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 640
Durham, NH 03824

Dear Mel:

Enclosed are maps and data on forms you provided, which document several forest insect and disease conditions in the state during 1984.

Questions on the enclosed report should be directed to Michael Birmingham.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Weller, Chief
Bureau of Forest Resource Management

Enc.

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Red Spruce Decline

(SPECIFIC NAME): Cause of decline unknown

HOST: Red Spruce

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): unknown

LOCATION: Northern New York

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Tug Hill and Adirondack Regions

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Unknown

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Increased from 1960's to present

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

COMMENTS: The Department and Forest Service are conducting a survey to determine the location and degree of red spruce decline in the Tug Hill and Adirondack regions.

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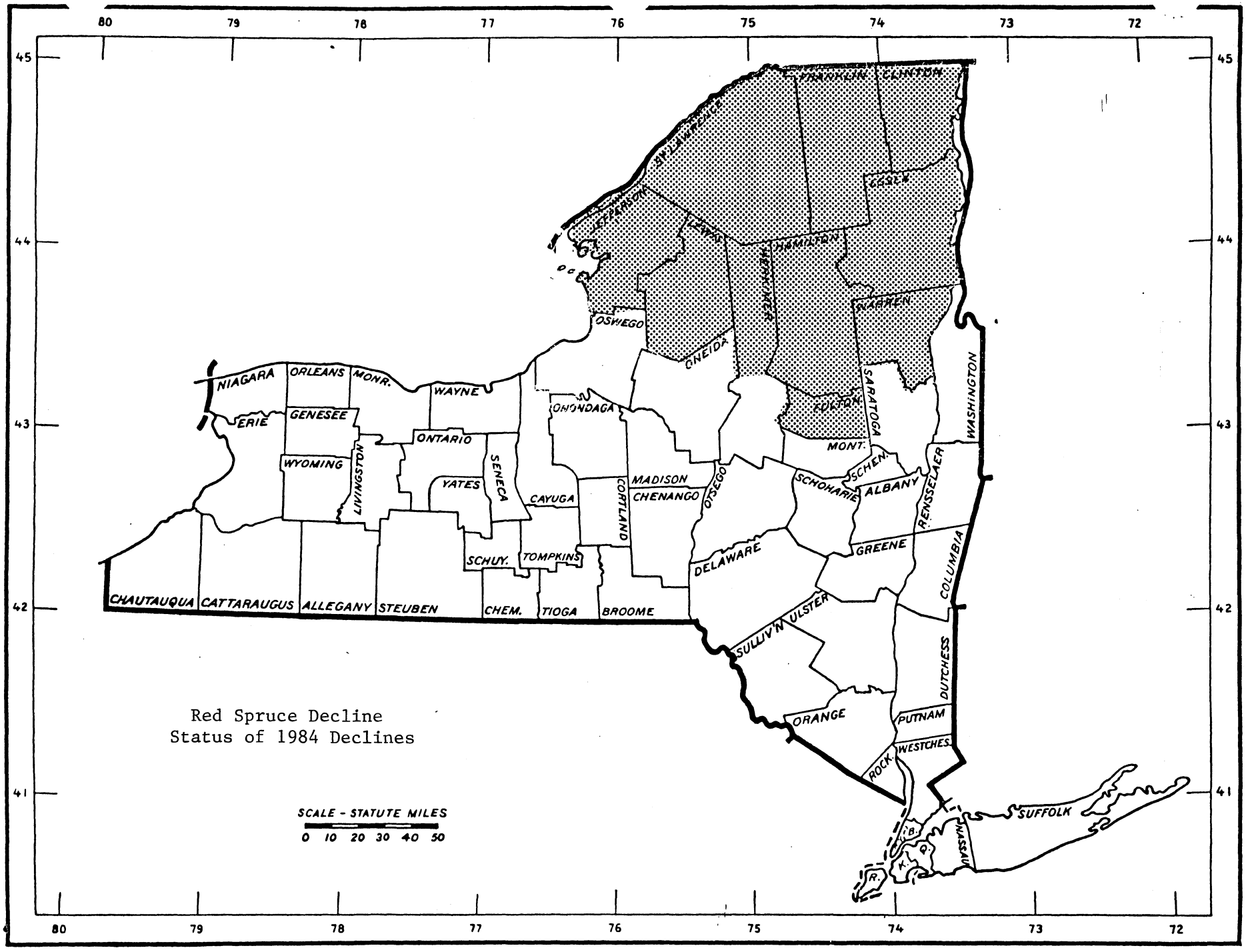

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Eastern Spruce Beetle

(SPECIFIC NAME): Dendroctonus obesus

HOST: Red, white, and black spruces

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Northern New York State

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Infestations affects 30% to 59% of trees on 6,190 acres and 60% to 100% of trees on 4,360 acres in Fulton and Hamilton Counties.

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Unknown

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Increased since the mid-1960's

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS:

NY

1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Balsam Fir Decline

(SPECIFIC NAME): The cause of balsam fir decline is unknown.

HOST: Balsam fir

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Tug Hill and Adirondack Regions

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Unknown

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Unknown

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Unknown

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: The Department and Forest Service are conducting a survey of the Tug Hill and Adirondack Regions in 1984 and 1985 to determine the degree and locations of balsam fir decline.

Balsam fir beetle infests 3,520 acres of declining balsam fir in Fulton and Hamilton Counties.

Pityokteines spinus

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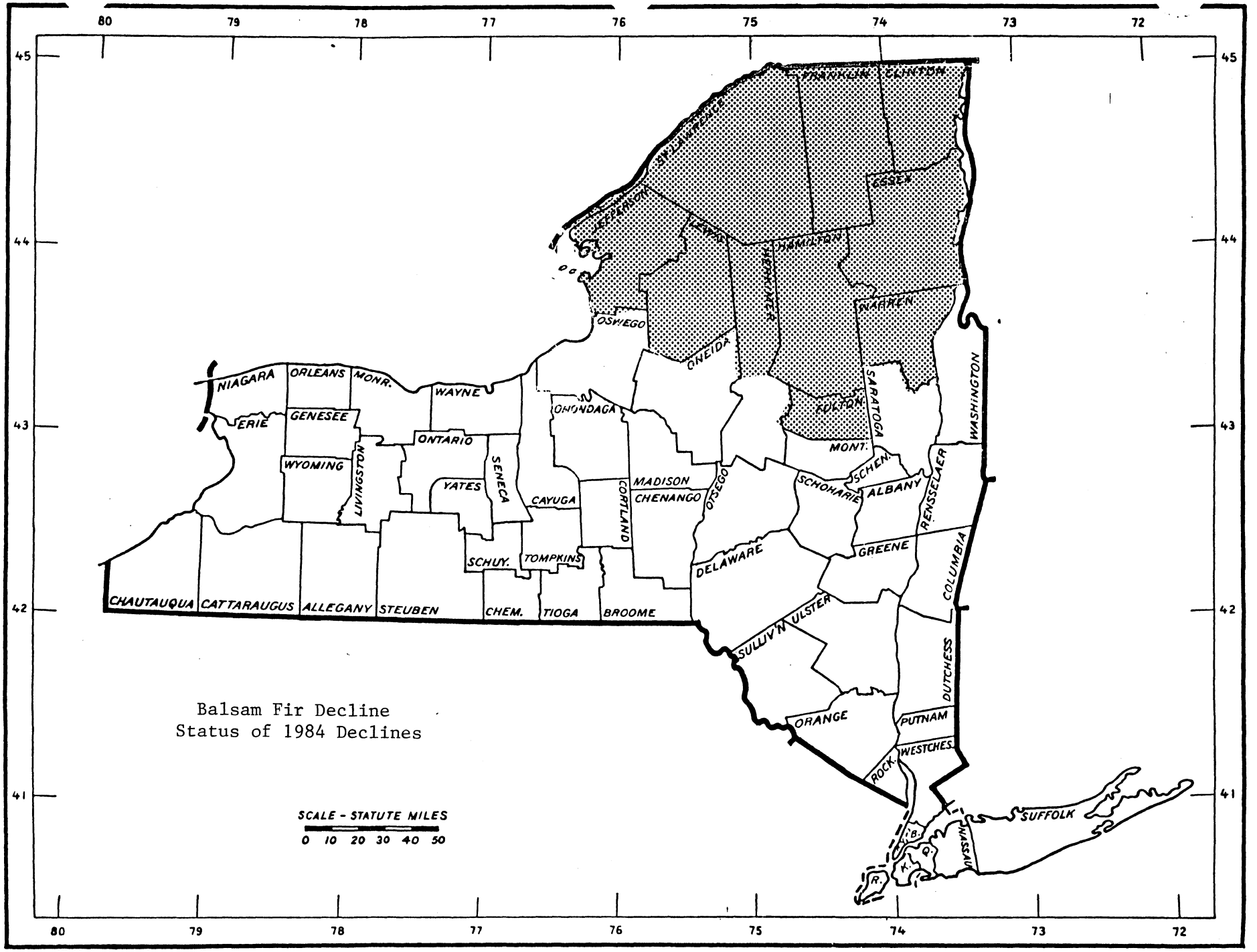

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Maple decline

(SPECIFIC NAME): Cause of maple decline is unknown.

HOST: Sugar maple

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): 60,500

LOCATION: Lewis, Jefferson, Fulton, and Hamilton Counties

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):
Moderate 30% to 59% decline on 55,850 acres
Heavy 60% to 100% decline on 6,900 acres

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

6,000 acres of 100% mortality valued at $2,500,000.00

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Increasing

FUTURE: Increase

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):
None

COMMENTS: Detection and evaluation surveys should be carried out to monitor this situation, also research projects should be initiated to determine cause. The maple decline described above occurs in the forest and not on roadside trees.

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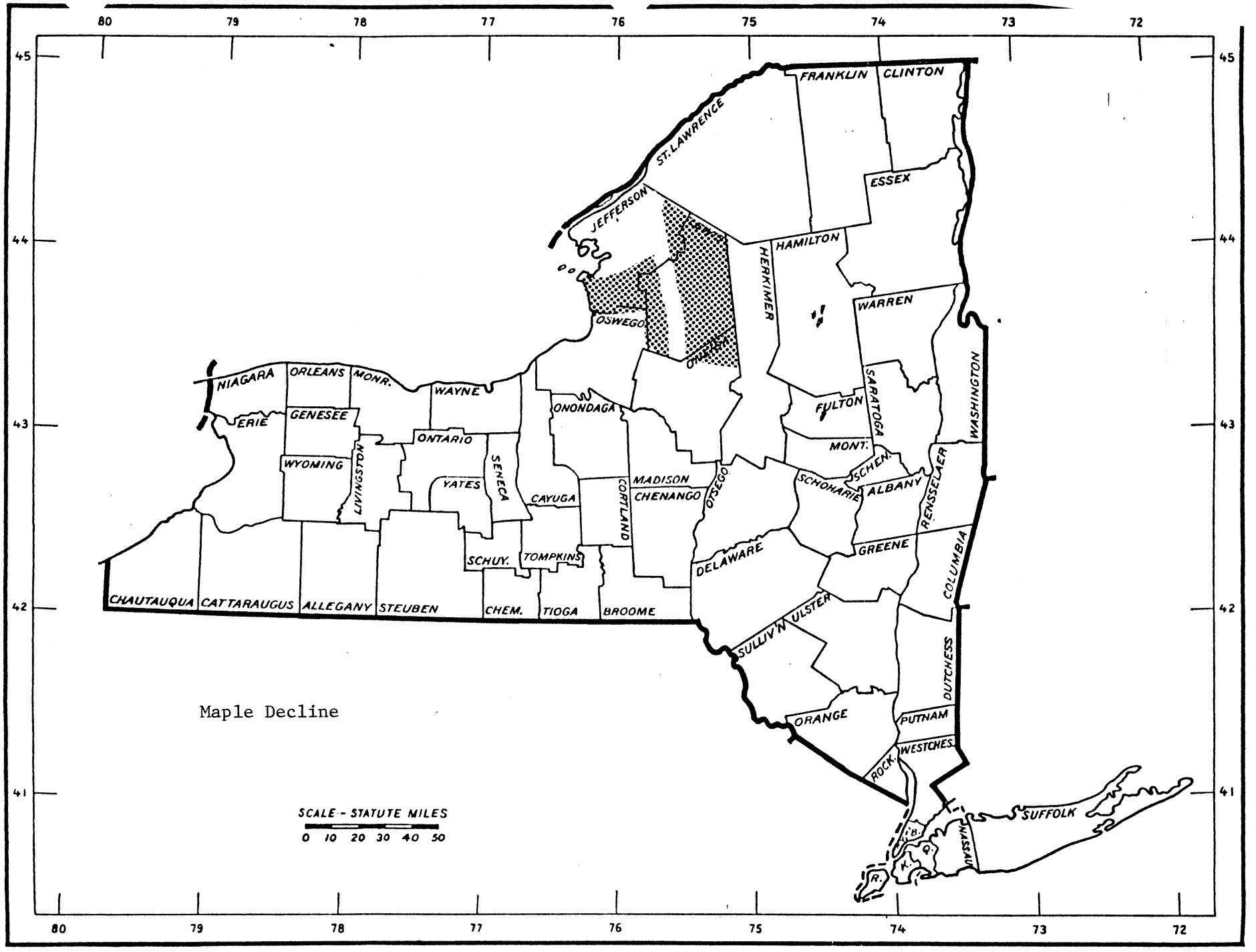

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Maple leaf cutter

(SPECIFIC NAME): Paraclemensia acerfoliella

HOST: Sugar maple

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): 11,000

LOCATION: Lewis & Jefferson County

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Moderate 30% to 59% defoliation on 7,500 acres
Heavy 60% to 100% defoliation on 3,500 acres

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

No tree mortality; No dollar value available for sugar maple product losses.

TREND: Losses are to sap production and sugar content of sap.

PAST TO PRESENT: Increasing from 1982 to 1984

FUTURE: No indications of natural population control. Expect continued defoliation in 1985.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: Some sugar bush owners are planning spray programs for 1985 if populations continue to be high or increase.

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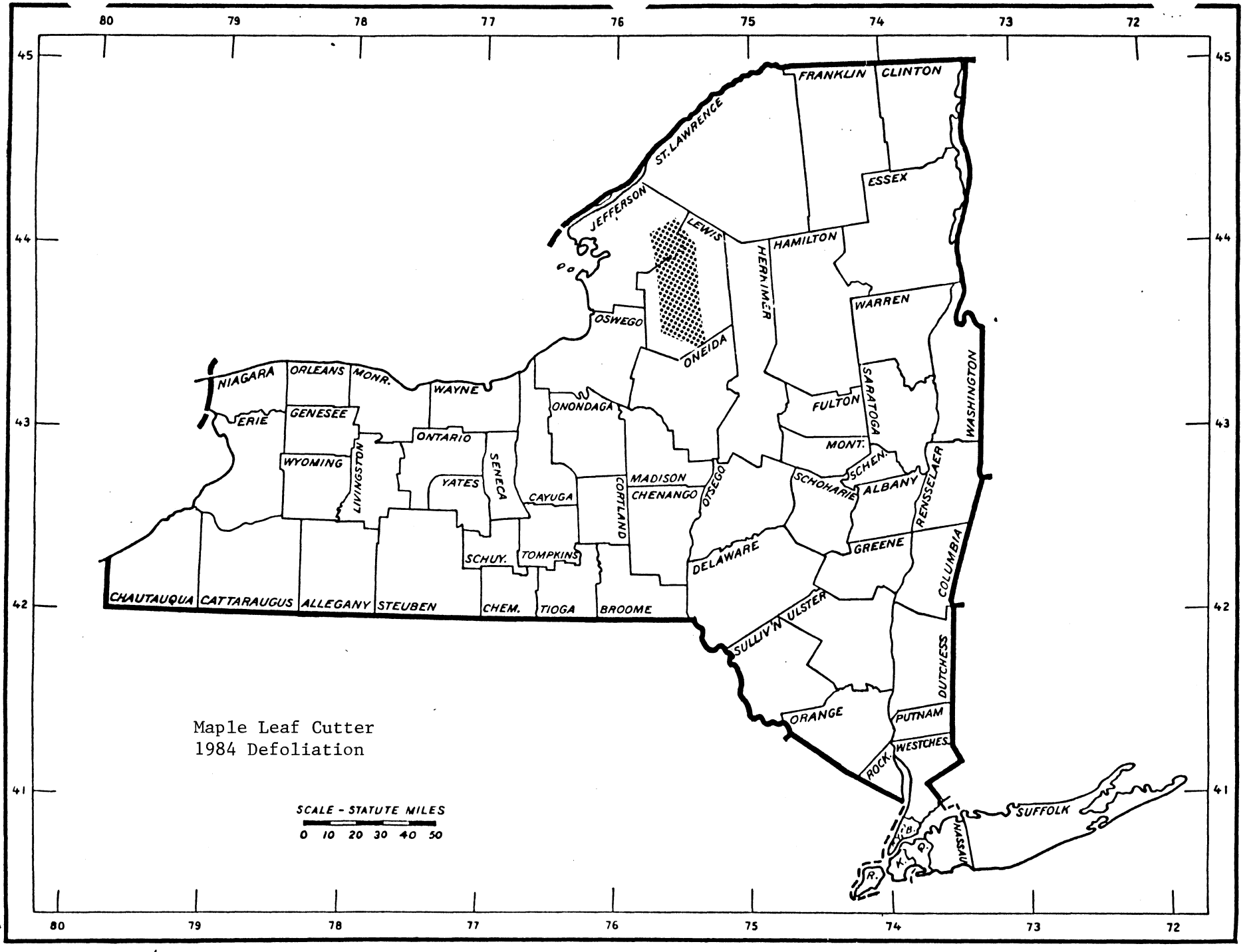

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Pine False Webworm

(SPECIFIC NAME): Acantholyda erythrocephala

HOST: White, Scotch, and Red pines

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): 341

LOCATION: St Lawrence County; Towns of Stockholm & Hopkinton

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

341 acres heavy defoliation

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

No mortality

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: increasing population

FUTURE: increasing population

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: Current problem began in 1981. Repeated infestations have left many of the white pine and Scotch pine with very poor crowns. Some tree mortality is expected. Sawfly is established in extensive pine plantations and so, the potential exists for further spread and buildup of this insect.

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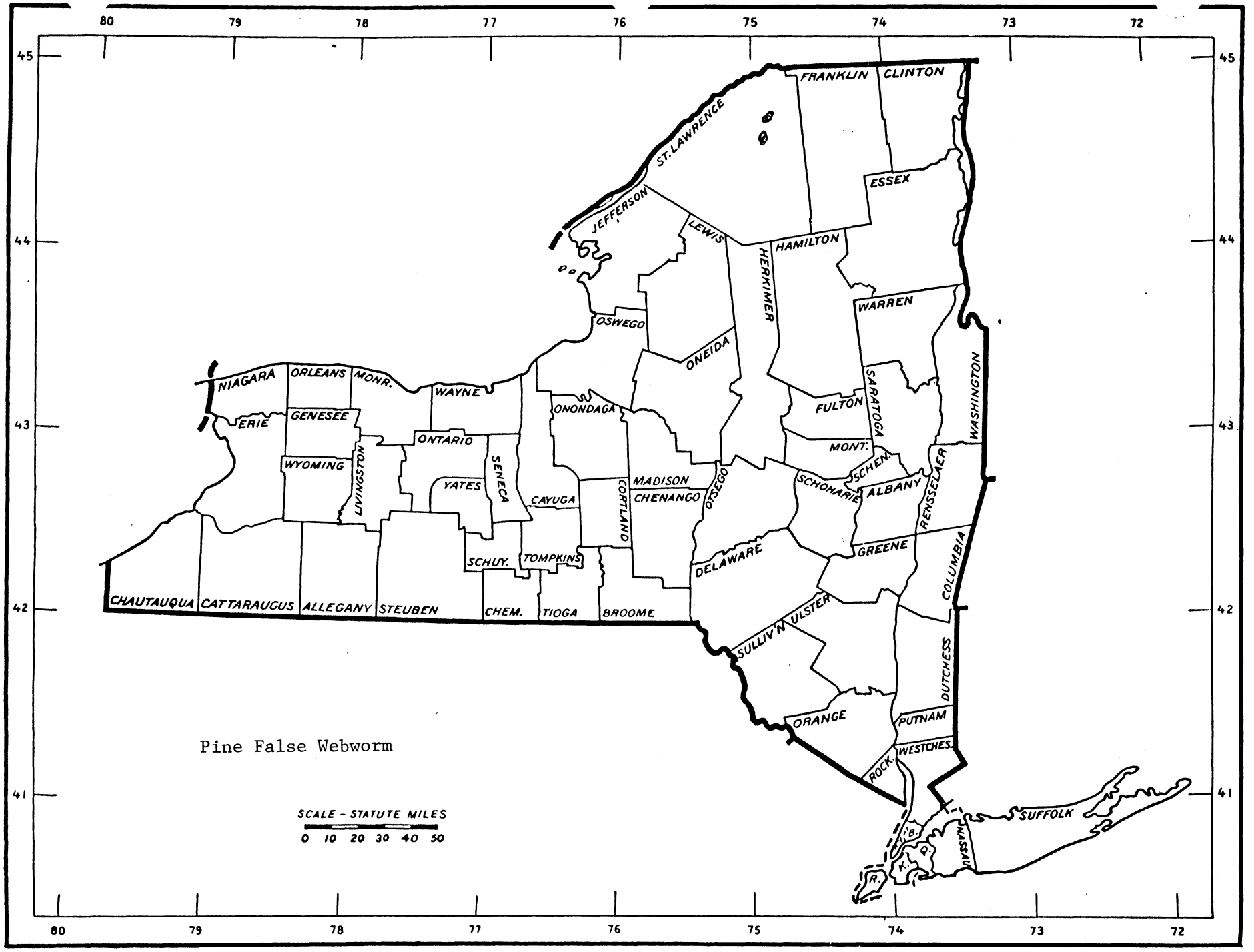

Pine False Webworm

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Red pine scale

(SPECIFIC NAME): Matsucoccus resinosae

HOST: Red pine

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): 400,000

LOCATION: Westchester, Suffolk, Nassau, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Unknown

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Nassau, Westchester, Suffolk, eastern 2/3 of Putnam Counties

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Increase

FUTURE: Spread northward at 1½ to 2 miles annually.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: A detection survey for red pine scale was conducted in November. Red pine scale was detected for the first time in the Towns of Dover and East Fishkill in Dutchess County.

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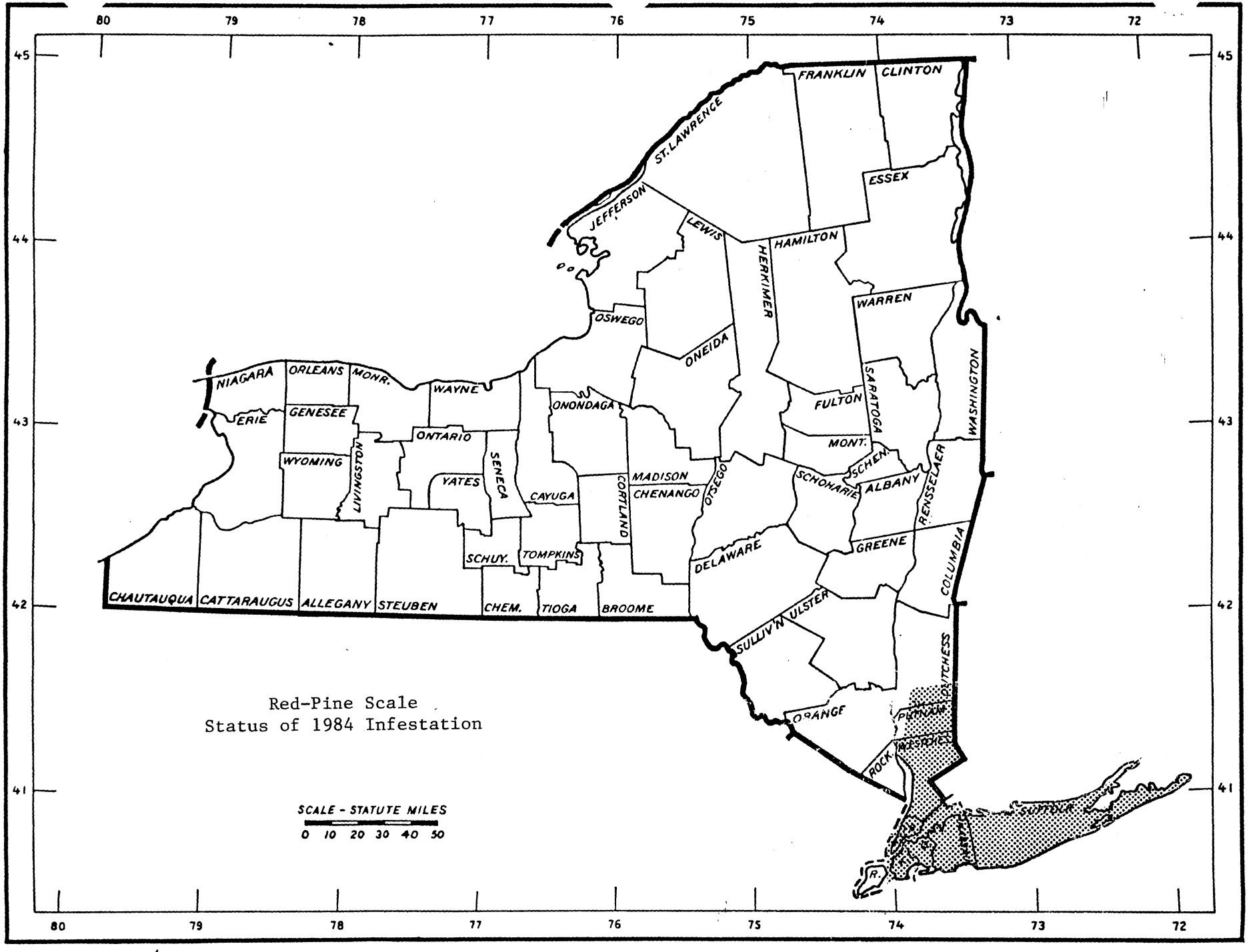

Red-Pine Scale
Status of 1984 Infestation

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Scleroderris canker

(SPECIFIC NAME): Scleroderris lagerbergii

HOST: Scotch and red pines

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: northern New York

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Unknown

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Tree mortality occurs in all counties that are infected, except for Saratoga

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Infection rates are stable since 1981

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: The Department and Forest Service have studied Scleroderris canker biology, rates of spread, and host tree susceptability since the early 1970's. Detection surveys for this disease were conducted by the Department, Forest Service, and New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets in the 1970's and early 1980's.

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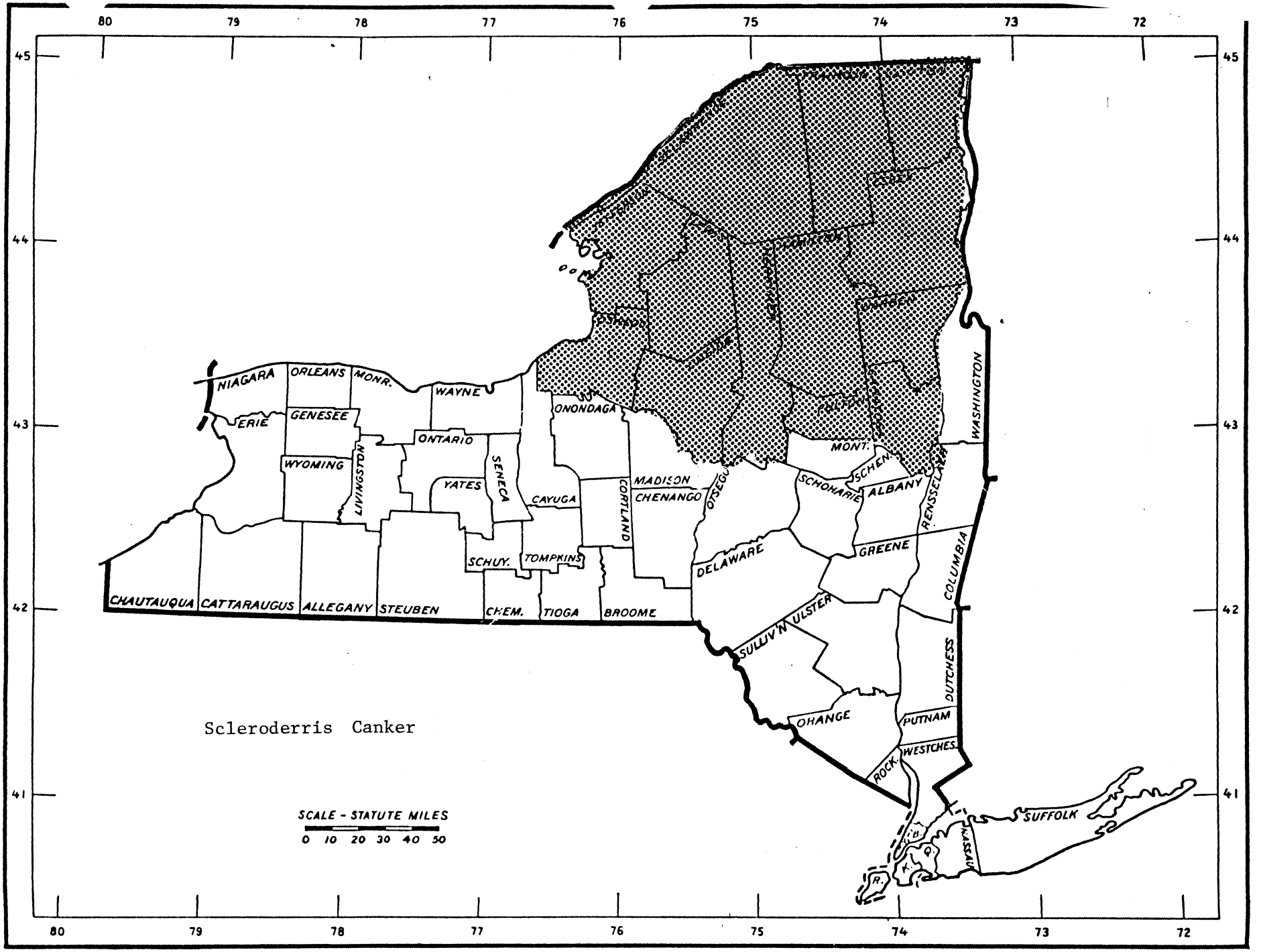

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Beech Bark Disease

(SPECIFIC NAME): Nectria coccinea var. faginata

HOST: American beech

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Infections throughout state, except for northwestern counties.

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Acreage figures for Hamilton, Fulton, and St. Lawrence Counties only. Infections of 30% to 59% of trees on 65,725 acres and 60% to 100% of trees on 35,125 acres.

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Tree mortality due to beech bark disease occurs throughout eastern two-thirds of the state

TREND:

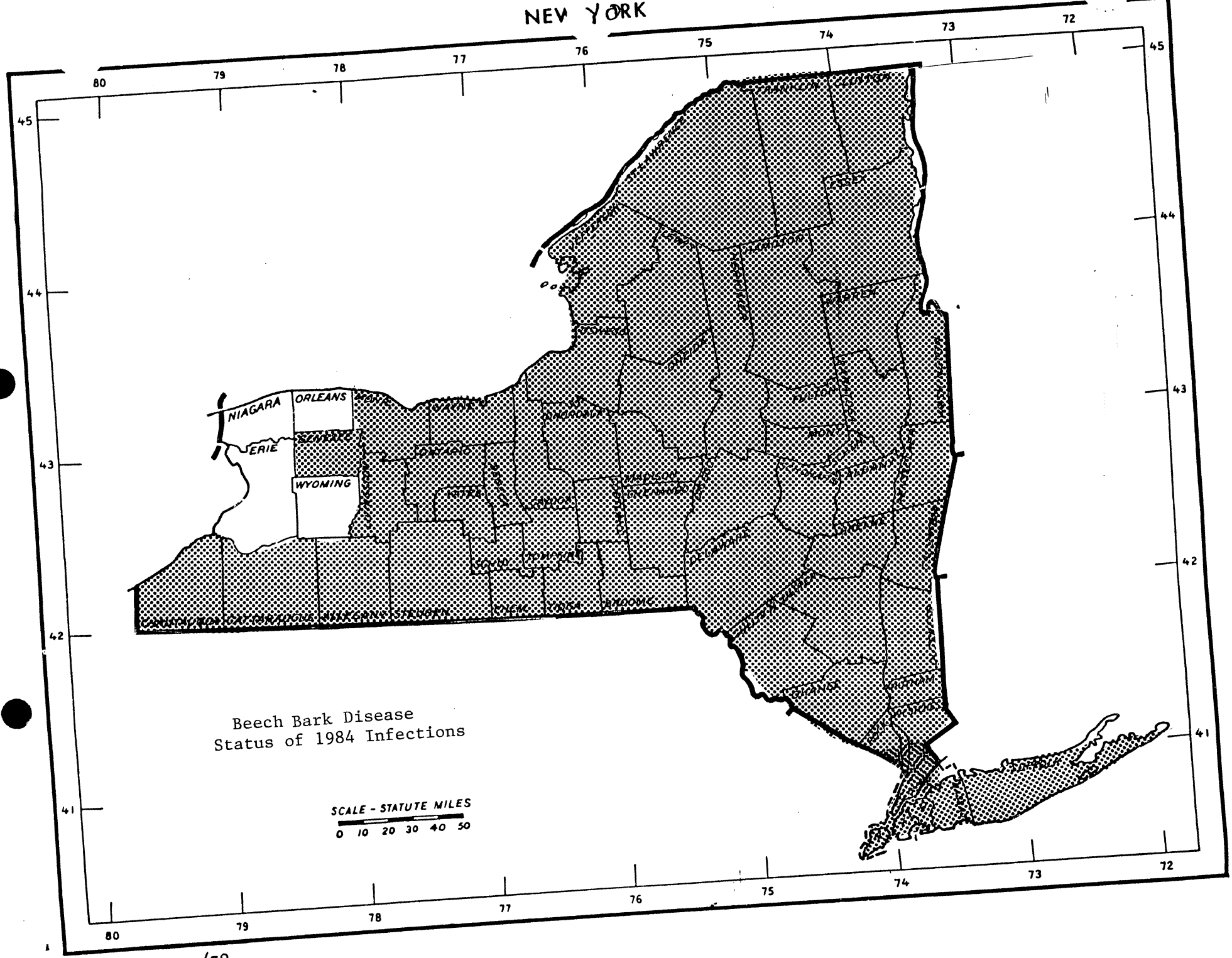
PAST TO PRESENT: Increasing

FUTURE: Beech scale infests American beech in all counties of the state. Lethal beech bark disease infections will follow the spread of the beech scale.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: Department foresters are marking beech on state forests and private cooperators woodlands in advance of the disease. Timely marking and harvesting of beech is reducing economic losses. Large volumes of beech in the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves have been killed. No timber harvesting is permitted on Forest Preserves.



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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Eastern Larch Beetle

(SPECIFIC NAME): Dentroctonus simplex

HOST: Eastern larch and red spruce

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Unknown

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):
Acreage figures for Hamilton and Fulton Counties only. A total of 5,280 acres of infestation affecting 30% to 59% of the larch and spruce and 1,800 acres affecting 60% to 100% of the larch and spruce.

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):
10,565 acres of 30% to 59% larch mortality and 3,600 acres of 60% to 100% larch mortality.

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Eastern larch beetle population is increasing since 1974.

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None.

COMMENTS: Larch infested with eastern larch beetles are dying. It is not known whether the eastern larch beetle is the primary cause of larch mortality or if the beetle attacks larch weakened from other causes such as the larch sawfly.

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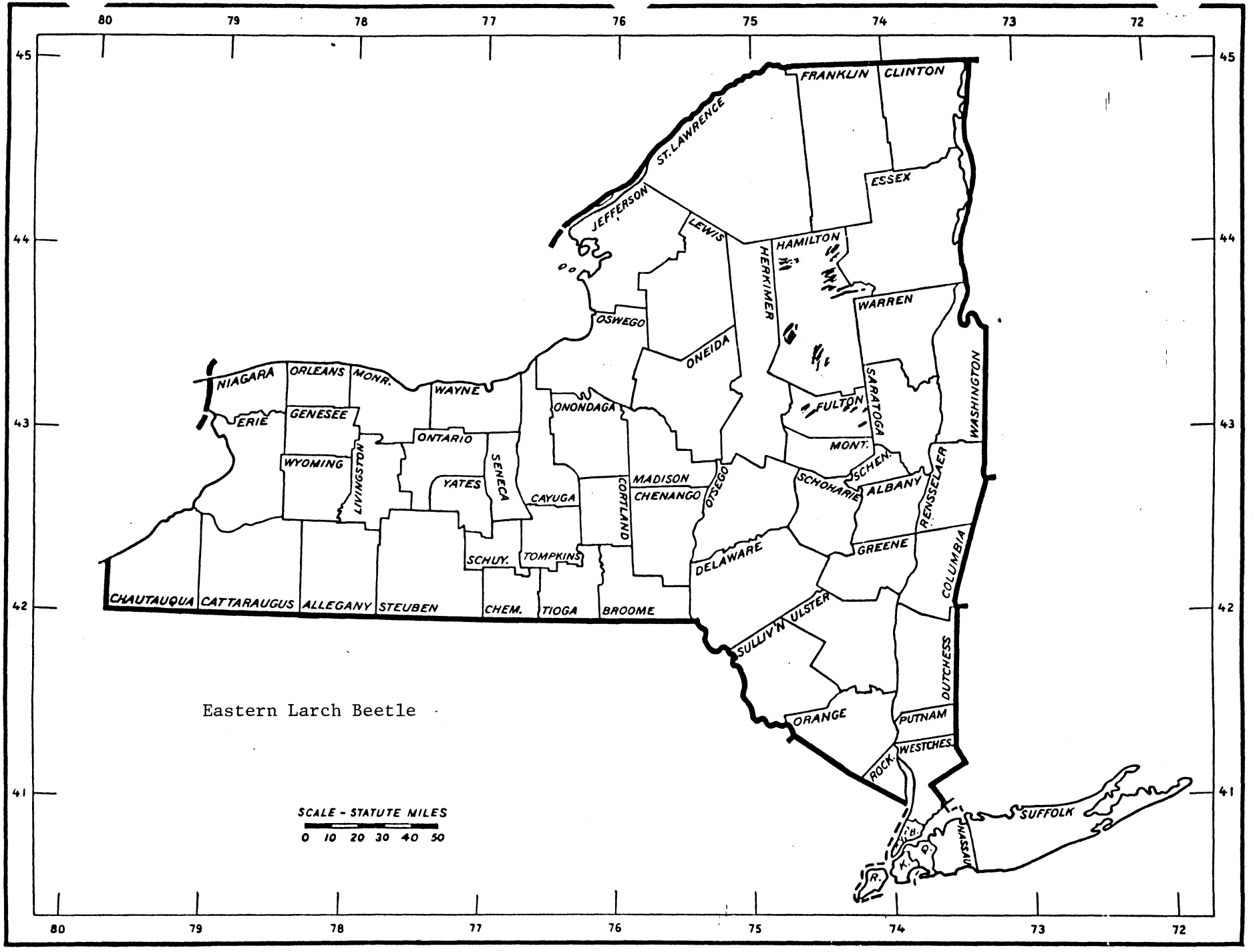

Eastern Larch Beetle

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Forest tent caterpillar

(SPECIFIC NAME): Malacosoma disstria

HOST: Sugar maple and many other hardwood species

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Sullivan, Ulster, and Hamilton Counties

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Moderate (30% to 59%) defoliation on 550 acres
Heavy (60% to 100%) defoliation on 75 acres

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

None in 1984

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Stable at epidemic levels between 1980 to 1982. Sharp decline in 1983. Low population overall in 1984.

FUTURE: Continued low population in 1985.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: The heavy infestation of forest tent caterpillar population in 1980 to 1982 caused extensive sugar maple damage in Sullivan and Delaware Counties on 200,000 acres of forests. Sugar maple mortality in Delaware County may have been heavy due to environmental stresses such as drought which preceded defoliation.

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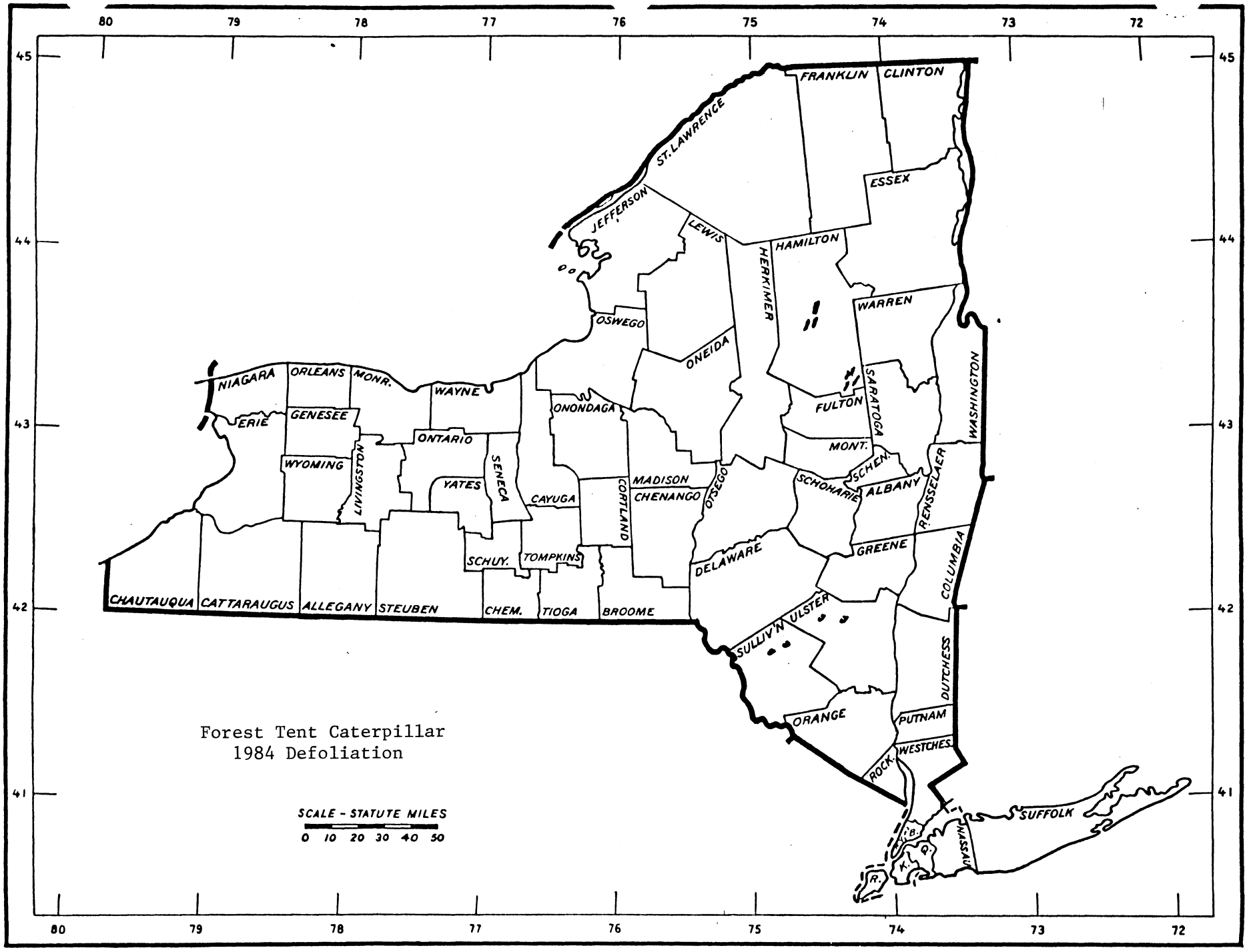

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Fall Cankerworm

(SPECIFIC NAME): Alsophila pometaria

HOST: Many hardwoods

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Defoliation occurred in Onondaga and Steuben Counties in 1984.

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Heavy defoliation on 4,644 acres

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):
None

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Unknown

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: Fall cankerworm has been a recurring problem in New York State. It has caused severe mortality of sugar maple in southwestern New York in the 1970's.

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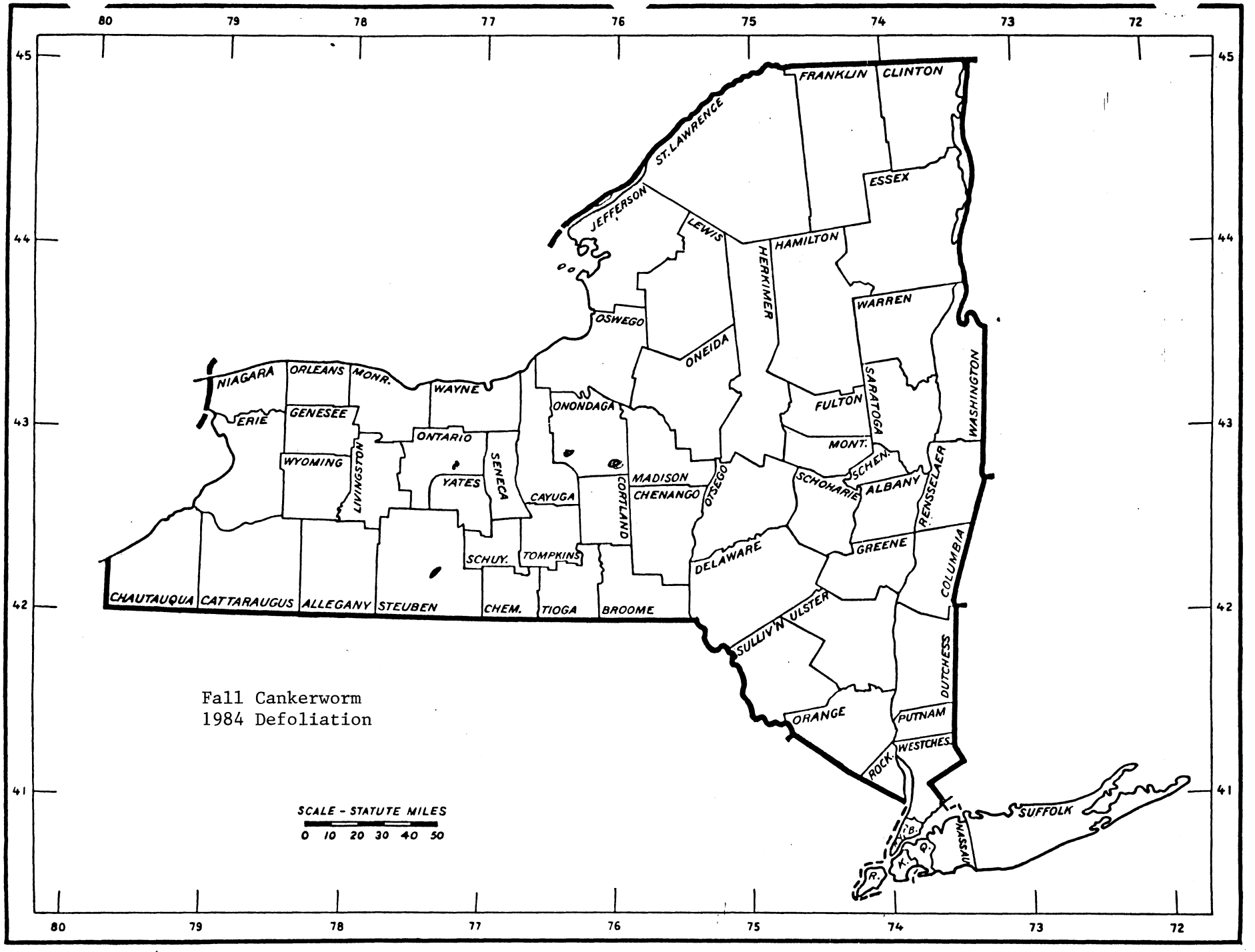

Fall Cankerworm
1984 Defoliation

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Gypsy Moth

(SPECIFIC NAME): Porthetria dispar

HOST: Nearly all hardwood and coniferous trees

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): 12 million

LOCATION: Statewide in distribution

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Moderate (30% to 59%) 9,710 acres defoliated
Heavy (60% to 100%) 23,968 acres defoliated

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

10,000 acres with 30 million board foot loss in southeastern New York.

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: 1978 to 1980 building
1980 to 1982 epidemic
1982 to 1984 declining in southeastern and southcentral New York; building in southwestern New York.

FUTURE:

In 1985 building in Orange, Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties. Building in Pallesades Park.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: Oak decline occurs throughout southeastern, and to a lesser degree, in southcentral New York. The decline occurs where gypsy moth defoliation was heavy during 1978 to 1982. Root rot and two-lined chestnut borer are found in declining oaks. Oak mortality is very high at some locations.

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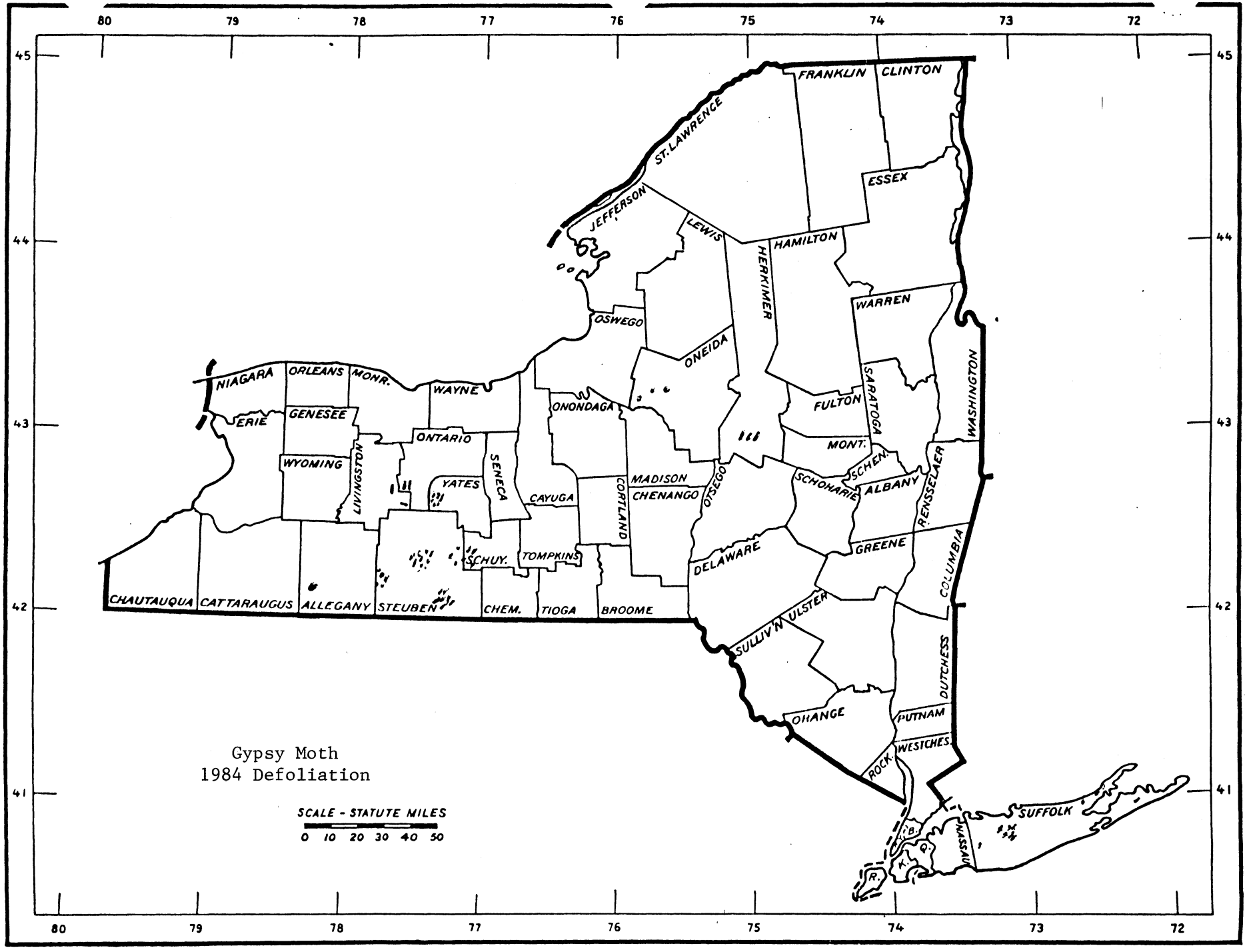

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1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Larch Sawfly

(SPECIFIC NAME): Pristiphora erichsonii

HOST: Tamarack

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga, Oswego, Tioga, Steuben, and Tompkins Counties

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Moderate (30% to 59%) 2,646 acres

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

None

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Unknown

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS:

NY

1984 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORK SHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Ash dieback

(SPECIFIC NAME): Ash yellows

HOST: White Ash

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Unknown

LOCATION: Statewide

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES):

Unknown

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES):

Unknown

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Stable at high infection rates

FUTURE: Unknown

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS):

None

COMMENTS: Ash dieback displaying symptoms of ash yellows disease continues to cause white ash mortality. Many white ash pole and small timber stands in Rensselaer County, for example, have over 90 percent of the trees dead or dying.